

experience, that one part of one's total self acts against another: one part wishes and another attempts to deny, control, or punish. We are all familiar with this in consciousness, as the feeling of *oughtness*, the conscience set over against the wish feelings and temptations. But it is psycho-analysis that has shown us the far-reaching psychic truth of these experiences which religion and literature have dramatised, and the intense reality, at a very early age, of the internal conflict between the "strict self", which represents the parents controlling and punishing, and the primitive "wish-self".

We have come to see that the super-ego develops within the child's mind through this imaginative incorporation of his parents, based upon the real bodily experience of taking the mother's breast into the mouth, and the general domination of the child's mental life by oral impulses in the earliest months.

In an earlier footnote (p. 356), I referred to M. N. Searl's extremely illuminating view that the special situation in which this division of the child's personality into the wish-self and the parent-self, or super-ego, probably takes its most definitive form is the situation of the screaming fit. There are few children who do not scream on some occasion or other and to some degree or other, when their desires are not immediately satisfied. The age at which such screaming fits occur, and their severity, will vary greatly from child to child, and from circumstance to circumstance; but there are none who do not experience it to a greater or less degree and on some occasion. No parent can or would attempt to satisfy all the child's desires at every moment when they arise—and to cry in rage is the child's normal way of attempting to

compel the parents to satisfy his desires.

It is probable that with those children who are not left to scream to the point of absolute exhaustion the super-ego does not develop with the intensest severity. In those who suffer -great oral frustration in the early days, so that they from the beginning cry fruitlessly and exhaustingly, the super-ego develops the utmost severity. The more frequently the child experiences such a situation, the more severe the effect will be upon his mental development. Resulting development will then take one of two opposite forms; either the child will be obliged to project his super-ego